

Minutes
Human Services Commission
Thursday, October 13, 2005
5:00 P.M.
Kiva – City Hall
3939 Drinkwater Boulevard
Scottsdale, AZ 85251

Present: Vice-chair Reid, Commissioners Berg, Bowers, Czapinski, Fausel and Hemmingsen

Absent: Chair Bachmann

Staff Present: Connie James, Mark Bethel, Donna Brower, Dawn Cagan, Cindy Ensign, Vicki French, Hugh McGill, Valerie Kime Trujillo, Sharon Light-Stephenson and Justin Lisonbee

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-chair Reid called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2005 MEETING

Commissioner Fausel moved to approve the September 22, 2005 regular meeting minutes and Commissioner Bowers seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE FOR STATE LEGISLATIVE SESSION - 2006

Senator Carolyn Allen, District 8, State Senate, discussed issues that will be a priority for consideration in the coming legislative session in Arizona.

Vice-chair Reid asked what services are offered in home now to CPS clients. Senator Allen stated that currently there are no in home services offered, but there is a committee that met over the summer and they are in the process of formulating what services will be available in home to CPS clients.

Commissioner Fausel applauded Senator Allen's position on foster care and discussed her role in the upcoming United Way Conference entitled "Promoting Solutions for Arizona's Children in Care" on October 19, 2005 at the East Valley Institute of Technology (1601 W. Main Street – Mesa, AZ), and that Commissioner Berg would also be sitting on the panel. Commissioner Fausel then extended an invitation to the conference to Senator Allen. Senator Allen asked to have the information on the conference and if nothing was on her calendar currently, she would be happy to attend. She added that when she was a teenager, her mother fostered a child. Commissioner Fausel reiterated the Senator's comment to listeners that they should consider becoming foster parents. She added that Arizona is the only state with the most children under age 5 in congregate care, and discussed those children who are aging out of the foster care system.

STATEWIDE ADVOCACY EFFORTS FOR HUMAN SERVICES - 2006

Tim Schmaltz from Protecting Arizona's Family Coalition (PAFCO) presented an overview of human service issues that the organization is advocating for in the coming legislative session in Arizona.

Vice-chair Reid commended Mr. Schmaltz on his passion and commitment to human services issues in Arizona. She indicated that when she first began her career, she worked in CPS and issues involving children are near and dear to her heart.

HUMAN SERVICES CURRENT ISSUES DRAFT REPORT AND UPDATE

Connie James, Human Services Director, introduced the background on the Human Services Issues Report. She stated that if the commission had any additions/deletions, please send them to Cindy Ensign, HS Planner by October 27 and she will incorporate them. Ms. James said that the HS Issues Report would then be sent to the City Council after the commission's approval. Ms. James then introduced Valerie Kime Trujillo, Resource Development Specialist who presented the basic needs portion of the report. Ms. Trujillo then introduced Sharon Light-Stephenson, Human Services Coordinator, who presented the Family Self Sufficiency portion of the report. Ms. Light-Stephenson then introduced Hugh McGill, Human Services Coordinator, who presented the Youth and Family Issues portion of the report. Mr. McGill then introduced Mary Beth Hollmann, Administrative Secretary, who presented the Domestic Violence portion of the report. Ms. Hollmann introduced, Vicki French, Human Services Manager for Youth and Family Services, who presented the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Issues portion of the report. Ms. French introduced Donna Brower, Human Services Coordinator, who presented the Senior Issues portion of the report. Ms. Brower then introduced Justin Lisonbee, Housing Coordinator, who presented the Funding Issues portion of the report. Mr. Lisonbee then returned the presentation to Connie James.

Commissioner Berg asked how Scottsdale is handling Katrina victims. Ms. James indicated that victims who has Section 8 vouchers could port them in to Scottsdale, and that would be handled by the Community Assistance Office. She added that, like other cities in Arizona, Scottsdale has centralized victims' needs through the state; therefore, victims call either the Red Cross or the Salvation Army and they are then referred out to agencies that can assist them, which may be located in Scottsdale or provided by our Human Services department.

Vice-chair Reid asked if disabilities had been addressed under childcare assistance. Mr. McGill stated that no, the issue has not been addressed because it has not been an issue for the legislature, but he added that it seems to be one of the top issues for the legislature, once they come into session.

Vice-chair Reid asked about children with disabilities and what happens to them when they reach 18. Mr. McGill stated that currently the system is not able to provide services for them. Ms. James added that at a recent Maricopa Association of Governments meeting representatives from the Department of Rehabilitation and Developmental Disabilities indicated that children with disabilities is the fastest growing target group in the state, due to multiple births and near drowning and providing services for this target group has become challenging.

Commissioner Bowers asked if there was a program for police officers in handling the mentally ill. Ms. French indicated that the Scottsdale Police Department has a Police Crisis Unit that is trained to handle situations involving the mentally ill, and police will call those in this unit if they see a need during a call. Ms. French also stated that obviously, things can happen in a moment and it may be difficult to get immediate crisis assistance, so the police do have some training to understand and cope better with the mentally ill, although they could use more training.

THE CITY OF SCOTTSDALE LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENT – 2006

Bridget Schwartz-Manock, Government Relations Director, presented an overview of current City of Scottsdale legislative process.

STAFF AND COMMISSION UPDATES

Ms. James stated that if Commissioners had any changes in the Human Services Issues Report, please contact Cindy Ensign by October 27 so that the changes could be made before the report goes for final approval at the next meeting. She also discussed that commissioners will be touring Teen Lifeline on October 27.

Ms. James introduced Valerie Kime Trujillo who updated the Commission on the following:

Human Services Administration - In July, city divisions, i.e., Human Services, Transportation, Parks and Recreation, Library and the Police Department submitted grant requests to the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community totaling \$2,718,500. On September 16, the Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community announced the grants that they will be funding. Human Services is the only area from the City that will be funded. An Intergovernmental Agreement is being developed for a Council Action to receive \$235,500 for six Human Services programs.

On September 19, Human Services received word that the City of Scottsdale had been chosen among 700 applications nationally to be one of the 100 Best Communities for Young People, through America's Promise, a Washington DC initiative led by Colin Powell. A November 2 celebration is scheduled in Washington DC for winning cities. A local celebration will be planned for the future.

Civic Center Senior Center - The new Scottsdale Senior Center at Granite Reef is at an approximate 71 percent completion rate. Anticipated finish date is January 2006. The Senior Center will be holding its annual "Spooktacular" on Monday October 31, from 10 am-12 pm in the lobby. **Community Assistance Office** - The Family Self-Sufficiency East Valley Alliance Home Ownership Club kicked off its fourth year on September 20 at Escalante Center in Tempe. The Club helps prepare Family Self Sufficiency participants from Tempe, Mesa, Chandler, and Scottsdale for home ownership. Community Services of Arizona (CSA) has acquired an 8-unit residential rental property in the Holiday Park neighborhood. CSA acquired the property with HOME Partnership funds awarded by the Maricopa Home Consortium to conduct an acquisition and rehabilitation of residential rental property. In addition to the \$728,402 in HOME funds, CSA will also obtain a loan from a private lender approaching \$175,000 that will be dedicated to the rehabilitation of the property.

Paiute Neighborhood Center - On September 7, elections were held for our first Teen Council. The Teen Council will be the voice of the teens and will help with planning monthly calendars and activities. The Teen Center staff are working with Scottsdale Healthcare in providing a program that helps older teen girls mentor the younger girls in building community relations. On October 6, Paiute participated in "Lights on After School," the only nationwide event that celebrates after-school programs. "Lights on After School," stresses the need for after-school programs that keep kids safe, help working families, and improve academic achievement. **Via Linda Senior Center** - Flu shot

clinics are currently being offered at the Via Linda Senior Center, the Civic Center Senior Center and the Paiute Neighborhood Center. Several insurance plans will be accepted. For individuals who do not have insurance or whose insurance plans are not accepted, the fee for a flu shot will be \$25. To schedule an appointment or for more information please call: Via Linda Senior Center: 480-312-5810; Civic Center Senior Center 480-312-7702; Paiute Neighborhood Center 480-312-0040. Via Linda Senior Center has joined up with the McDowell Sonoran Land Trust and will now offering a number of guided local hikes. The hikers will be picked up and dropped off at Via Linda and with a staff member at all times. The Via Linda Senior Center is also preparing for the annual Adopt a Senior Program. This program provides holiday gifts and grocery gift cards to socially isolated seniors in Scottsdale. City of Scottsdale Human Services Professionals deliver the gift packages and complete in-home assessments during the month of December. Individuals or groups, who are interested in supporting this program, can assist by: Making a monetary donation to the program; Donating grocery gift cards in \$25 denominations; Shopping for the items on a senior's wish list. Donations need to be turned in by November 23. For more information, please call Susan Williams at 480-312-5810. The Intergenerational Tutoring Program begins the week of October 27. This program connects a senior tutor with a K-5 grade student that attends Laguna Elementary School or the Piper Branch of the Boys & Girls Club for weekly tutoring throughout the school year. Volunteers are still being sought – call Melissa or Jim at 480-312-5810 if you are interested in getting involved. The Costume Contest and Party has been combined with the Fall Hoe Down and is now the Harvest Homecoming Hoe Down held on Friday, October 28 from 2:30 to 5 pm. **Vista del Camino** - Community Legal Services is offering divorce workshops at Vista del Camino on the second Thursday of each month. Arrange screening and registration by contacting Community Legal Services at 480-833-1442. The Jewish Family and Children's Services Eldervention Program is seeking seniors to participate in a Memory Book class to be offered at Vista del Camino. Anyone interested can contact Pat at 480-312-0063. Registration for the Holiday Adopt a Family Program is in progress. Paiute staff will enroll 200 families. Staff members from Youth and Family Services, the Senior Centers, Human Services Administration and Community Assistance will enroll 150 families. An additional 150 families will be drawn from clients coming in for emergency services during October, November and December. **Youth and Family Services** – Hugh McGill will be honored at the HOPE (Healthy Options for Parents through Education) annual volunteer dinner. Hugh will receive the "Special Friend" award for his continued support of HOPE events and parent education. In 1997, Hugh received the "Community Volunteer" award for his invaluable service as a HOPE member. There were 39 Scottsdale High Schools accepted into the Mayor's Youth Council. Throughout the school year, members will have the opportunity to meet with the Mayor and various city staff, in order to learn about city government. Youth Services will be offering classes that teach Study Skills, and Money Management skills for teens. To register, call 312-7922.

OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Vice-chair Reid made an open call to the public for comments/questions/announcements or other business. There were no replies.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to be brought before the commission, Vice-chair Reid asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Fausel moved to adjourn the meeting and

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Commissioner Hemmingsen seconded. The motion carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Beth Hollmann, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.

Connie James
Director, Human Services